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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1900  
(PART TWO OF TWO)

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

1900





P U B L I C   H E A L T H   C O M M I T T E E

ST. ALBANS RURAL DISTRICT

Councillor Mrs. C.M. Hadow, (Chairman)  
Councillor R. Palmer, (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor A.G. Cutmore,  
Councillor G.K. Dickens,  
Councillor W. Inglis,  
Councillor L.R. Noblett,  
Councillor W. Pitt,  
Councillor R.N.B. Prior,  
Councillor R.V. Sparrow,  
Councillor G. Vancliffe.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

C. Burns, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

P.B.M. O'Reilly, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

L. Lowe, M.A.P.H.I.,  
Chief Public Health Inspector.

W.A. Beere, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
Deputy Public Health Inspector.

D.J. Litherland, Dip: P.H.I. Educ-Board,  
Additional Public Health Inspector.

F.V. Jennings,  
Student Public Health Inspector.

Mrs. D. Jones,  
Chief Clerk.

Miss P. Woolman,  
Junior Clerk.



REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Divisional Health Office,  
Bleak House,  
Catherine Street,  
St. Albans.

To: The Chairman and Councillors of the St. Albans Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health of the Rural District of St. Albans for the year of 1968.

I am happy as in previous years to be able to report that the general health of the area remains good. The crude death rate rose slightly from 11.9 to 13.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population in 1968 as compared with 1967. The comparable death rate, which is corrected to allow for the population structure of the area as compared with the rest of the country was 10.0, compared with the rate for the whole of England and Wales of 11.9. As in previous years the major causes of death were the degenerative and the malignant diseases particularly cardio-vascular disease which was the largest single cause of death.

The falling trend in the birth rate continued with a drop from 14.3 live births per 1,000 population in 1967 to 14.2 in 1968. This is in line with the national trend and is no doubt associated with the availability of more effective forms of contraception.

During the summer a large scale campaign to vaccinate the age group 4 - 7 years against measles was undertaken and at the time of writing it appears that this has been successful in substantially reducing the incidence of the disease. Fuller details will be given in my next annual report.

As in previous years my thanks are due to the many people, both within the Public Health Department and in other agencies, without whose co-operation the work of the Department would have been impossible. It is worth referring in this connection to the fact that, in addition to being the Rural District Council's Medical Officer of Health I am also, as the County Council's Divisional Medical Officer for the St. Albans Division, responsible for the day to day administration locally of the County's Health and Welfare Services. This has considerable advantages in that many problems, which concern for example the housing department, or the public health inspectorate are also well known to the County Council's nursing, health visiting or social work services and my dual role enables me to act as co-ordinator of the various services involved. For this purpose, case conferences are held each quarter, at which representatives of the various departments concerned meet under my chairmanship to discuss common problems and co-ordinate a common approach to them.

Finally, I should like to express my gratitude to you Mr. Chairman, and Ladies and Gentlemen for the interest you have taken in the work of the Department throughout the year and for all the help and consideration you have given to myself and my staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

CARL BURNS,

Medical Officer of Health



Section ASTATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population | 43,570     |
| Area (in acres)                                     | 32,084     |
| Number of Inhabited Houses on the Rate Books        |            |
| Dwelling Houses                                     | 12,679     |
| Shops with Living Accommodation                     | 71         |
| Licensed Premises with Living Accommodation         | 55         |
| Rateable Value                                      | £2,131,006 |

Vital Statistics

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Live Births -   |      |
| Number  | 617  |
| Rate per 1,000 population                                     | 14.2 |
| Illegitimate Live Births -                                    |      |
| Number  | 38   |
| Rate % of total live births                                   | 6.2  |
| Stillbirths -   |      |
| Number  | 9    |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths                     | 14.4 |
| Total live and stillbirths -                                  | 626  |
| Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)                         |      |
| Number  | 11   |
| Rate per 1,000 live births                                    | 17.8 |
| Infant Mortality Rates -                                      |      |
| Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births               | 17.8 |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births     | 19.0 |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births | -    |
| Neo-Natal Mortality Rate -                                    |      |
| Number  | 9    |
| Rate per 1,000 total live births                              | 14.6 |
| Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate -                              |      |
| Number  | 8    |
| Rate per 1,000 total live births                              | 13.0 |
| Peri-Natal Mortality Rate -                                   |      |
| Number (stillbirths and deaths under one week)                | 17   |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths                     | 27.2 |
| Maternal Mortality (including abortion)                       | NIL  |

## Deaths

Number of Deaths

587

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population

13.5

In order to make comparisons between the rates in different areas and the Country as a whole, the Registrar General has supplied "Comparability Factors" to be applied to these two rates so that comparisons can be made.

Applying these two factors to the Rural District, the following results are given:-

| <u>Crude Birth<br/>Rate</u> | <u>Comparable<br/>Birth Rate</u> | <u>Crude Death<br/>Rate</u> | <u>Comparable<br/>Death Rate</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 14.2                        | 12.9                             | 13.5                        | 10.0                             |

## Death, Birth, Infant Mortality, Stillbirth and Peri-natal Mortality Rates

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Death<br/>Rate</u> | <u>Birth<br/>Rate</u> | <u>Infant Mortality<br/>Rate</u> | <u>Stillbirth<br/>Rate</u> | <u>Peri-natal<br/>Mortality Rate</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1947        | 9.2                   | 16.5                  | 54.0                             |                            |                                      |
| 1948        | 7.0                   | 14.5                  | 18.1                             |                            |                                      |
| 1949        | 8.2                   | 14.8                  | 22.2                             |                            |                                      |
| 1950        | 7.7                   | 13.2                  | 22.5                             |                            |                                      |
| 1951        | 7.7                   | 13.3                  | 29.1                             |                            |                                      |
| 1952        | 6.8                   | 12.8                  | 8.1                              |                            |                                      |
| 1953        | 18.1                  | 14.5                  | 28.6                             |                            |                                      |
| 1954        | 17.7                  | 14.5                  | 16.6                             |                            |                                      |
| 1955        | 19.1                  | 15.2                  | 15.3                             |                            |                                      |
| 1956        | 19.3                  | 14.4                  | 19.8                             |                            |                                      |
| 1957        | 16.0                  | 15.3                  | 17.8                             |                            |                                      |
| 1958        | 13.6                  | 17.3                  | 18.5                             |                            |                                      |
| 1959        | 12.1                  | 17.7                  | 23.5                             |                            |                                      |
| 1960        | 12.4                  | 17.6                  | 22.9                             |                            |                                      |
| 1961        | 12.3                  | 17.4                  | 16.5                             | 19.2                       | 35.4                                 |
| 1962        | 12.7                  | 18.7                  | 20.4                             | 9.5                        | 21.6                                 |
| 1963        | 13.6                  | 18.2                  | 8.2                              | 12.2                       | 14.9                                 |
| 1964        | 10.7                  | 17.9                  | 9.5                              | 6.7                        | 10.8                                 |
| 1965        | 12.3                  | 15.3                  | 13.9                             | 12.2                       | 22.9                                 |
| 1966        | 13.0                  | 14.7                  | 8.0                              | 11.1                       | 15.9                                 |
| 1967        | 11.9                  | 14.3                  | 7.0                              | 8.0                        | 11.0                                 |
| 1968        | 13.5                  | 14.2                  | 17.8                             | 14.4                       | 27.2                                 |



## Causes of Death

(N.B. A new system of classification has been introduced by the Registrar General and is used this year for the first time so that these statistics are not directly comparable with those for previous years.)

|  | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System     | 1           | 1             |
| Syphilis and its Sequelae              | 1           | -             |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases | -           | 1             |
| Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach           | 7           | 5             |
| Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus    | 10          | 3             |
| Malignant Neoplasm - Breast            | -           | 9             |
| Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus            | -           | 1             |
| Leukaemia                              | 1           | 2             |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms, Etc.        | 22          | 23            |
| Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms       | 2           | -             |
| Diabetes Mellitus                      | 1           | 2             |
| Other Endocrine, Etc. Diseases         | 1           | -             |
| Anaemias                               | -           | 1             |
| Other Diseases of Blood, Etc.          | -           | 2             |
| Mental Disorders                       | 3           | 1             |
| Other Diseases of Nervous System, Etc. | 6           | 2             |
| Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease        | 1           | 3             |
| Hypertensive Disease                   | 4           | 8             |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease                | 64          | 42            |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease           | 33          | 46            |
| Cerebrovascular Disease                | 20          | 31            |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System   | 8           | 18            |
| Influenza                              | 2           | 6             |
| Pneumonia                              | 37          | 52            |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema               | 11          | 7             |
| Asthma                                 | 2           | 1             |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System   | 3           | 2             |
| Peptic Ulcer                           | 2           | 1             |
| Apendicitis                            | -           | 2             |
| Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia      | 3           | 1             |
| Cirrhosis of Liver                     | 1           | 2             |
| Other Diseases of Digestive System     | -           | 2             |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis                | 1           | 2             |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate                | 1           | -             |
| Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System  | 2           | 6             |
| Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue  | -           | 2             |
| Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System    | -           | 5             |
| Congenital Anomalies                   | 3           | 4             |
| Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.   | 2           | 1             |
| Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality    | 2           | 2             |
| Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions    | 1           | 1             |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents                | 4           | 2             |
| All Other Accidents                    | 6           | 12            |
| Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries    | 1           | 3             |
| All Other External Causes              | 1           | -             |
| Total All Causes                       | 270         | 317           |

## Vital Statistics, 1968 - England and Wales

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns of Registrar General.

### Births

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Live Births (per 1,000 total population)           | 16.9 |
| Stillbirths (per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) | 14.0 |

### Deaths

|   |      |
|---|------|
| All Causes (per 1,000 total population)                     | 11.9 |
| Infants under 1 year (per 1,000 related live births)        | 18.0 |
| Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)   | 0.2  |
| Neo-Natal Death Rate (per 1,000 related live births)        | 12.4 |
| Peri-Natal Mortality (per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) | 25.0 |

This table is included to enable comparison to be made between local rates and national rates, but in dealing with the relatively low numbers from which local rates are calculated, one must be very cautious about drawing conclusions.

### Number of Deaths and Death Rates from Tuberculosis and Cancer, 1968.

The provisional number of deaths and death rates per million population for England and Wales during the year 1968 are as follows:-

|                                | <u>Number</u> |                |                | <u>Rate</u>  |                |                |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                | <u>Males</u>  | <u>Females</u> | <u>Persons</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Persons</u> |
| Respiratory<br>Tuberculosis    | 1,094         | 364            | 1,458          | 46           | 15             | 30             |
| Other Tuberculosis             | 406           | 227            | 633            | 17           | 9              | 13             |
| Cancer of Lung<br>and Bronchus | 23,896        | 4,930          | 28,826         | 1,011        | 197            | 593            |
| Other Cancer                   | 37,137        | 46,580         | 83,717         | 1,572        | 1,866          | 1,723          |

## COMMENTARY ON VITAL STATISTICS - ST. ALBANS RURAL DISTRICT

### BIRTHS

There were 617 births in the Rural District in 1968, compared with 611 in 1967. The birth rate in 1968 was 14.2, compared with 14.3 in 1967. This is the lowest birth rate since 1952.

### STILLBIRTHS

There were 9 stillbirths in 1968, compared with 5 in 1967, giving a stillbirth rate of 14.4 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths, compared with 8.0 in 1967.

### INFANT DEATHS

11 children died under the age of 1 compared with 4 in 1967, an increase of 7. This makes the infant mortality rate in 1968, 17.8, compared with 7.0 in 1967. The causes of these deaths are shown in the table set out below:

#### AGE AT DEATH

| Cause of Death            | Under<br>1<br>wk. | Under<br>2<br>wks | Under<br>3<br>wks | Under<br>4<br>wks | TOTAL<br>under<br>1 mth | Under<br>3<br>mths. | Under<br>6<br>mths. | Under<br>9<br>mths. | Under<br>12<br>mths. | TOTAL<br>under<br>1 yr. |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Asphyxia                  | 5                 |                   |                   |                   | 5                       |                     |                     |                     |                      | 5                       |
| Congenital<br>abnormality |                   | 1                 |                   |                   | 1                       |                     |                     |                     |                      | 1                       |
| Respiratory<br>infection  | 1                 |                   |                   |                   | 1                       | 2                   |                     |                     |                      | 3                       |
| Fetal Membrane            | 2                 |                   |                   |                   | 2                       |                     |                     |                     |                      | 2                       |
| TOTAL                     | 8                 | 1                 |                   |                   | 9                       | 2                   |                     |                     |                      | 11                      |

Breaking down the number of children who died under the age of 1 year, 8 children died in the first week of life compared with 2 in 1967, giving an early neo-natal mortality rate of 13.0, compared with 3.3 in 1967. In 1968 a total of 9 children died under the age of 1 month, compared with 4 children in 1967, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 14.6 (3.3 in 1967).



There were two deaths of children between 1 month and 1 year old in 1968, compared with none in the previous year. Considering together the stillbirths, and those children who died in the first week of life (that is, those children whose death resulted as a complication of pregnancy, and childbirth), the perinatal mortality rate was 27.3 compared with 11.0 in 1967. Although all of these rates vary from the previous year, all these differences are really very small and all could be due to chance variations. The national figures for England and Wales are given on page 6 for comparison.

#### DEATHS

There were 587 deaths in the district in 1968, compared with 511 in 1967. This gives a death rate of 13.5 compared with a death rate of 11.9 in 1967. When these figures are corrected, using the "comparability factor" provided by the Registrar General (which takes into account the differences in age, composition of the population, difference in sex incidence in the population, and makes allowances for the deaths occurring in the mental hospitals in the district) the death rate treated in this way becomes 10.0 in 1968 and 8.2 in 1967. The death rate for England and Wales to be compared with this is 11.9.

Degenerative disease of the heart and arteries was the commonest cause of death, accounting for more than half the total number of deaths during the year. Deaths from this cause and from certain forms of cancer, particularly lung cancer, are on the increase and, while the infectious diseases, the major killers of an earlier generation, have largely been conquered by improved standards of living and hygiene, immunisation and modern methods of treatment with germ killing drugs, the degenerative and malignant diseases emerge as the great public health problem of the present. Much can be done by the individual to reduce his or her chances of succumbing prematurely to one of these conditions but unfortunately like so much good advice it is easier to give than to act upon. There is no doubt, nevertheless, that dietary control to avoid overweight, the taking of regular exercise, and the shunning of cigarettes would, if widely adopted have a dramatic effect on the figures quoted in these pages.

Cancer 83 people died of cancers, 40 men and 43 women. Lung cancer was the most common cancer. The Table set out below and compiled from local records shows the ages of death, and the sites of the cancers in these people.

|            |       | Under<br>5 | 25-35 | 35-45 | 45-55 | 55-65 | 65-75 | 75+ | TOTAL |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| Stomach    | Men   | -          | -     | -     | 2     | 2     | 3     | -   | 7     |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | 1     | -     | 2     | 2   | 5     |
| Lung       | Men   | -          | -     | -     | -     | 2     | 5     | 3   | 10    |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | -     | -     | 2     | 1   | 3     |
| Breast     | Women | -          | -     | -     | 1     | 4     | 3     | 1   | 9     |
| Uterus     | Women | -          | -     | -     | -     | 1     | -     | -   | 1     |
| Bladder    | Men   | -          | -     | -     | -     | 1     | -     | 1   | 2     |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | -     | 1     | -     | -   | 1     |
| Rectum     | Men   | -          | -     | -     | -     | -     | -     | 1   | 1     |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | -     | -     | -     | 3   | 3     |
| Oesophagus | Men   | -          | -     | -     | -     | 1     | 1     | -   | 2     |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | -     | -     | -     | -   | -     |
| Prostate   | Men   | -          | -     | -     | -     | -     | 4     | 1   | 5     |
| Pancreas   | Men   | -          | -     | -     | 1     | -     | 2     | -   | 3     |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | -     | -     | 1     | 1   | 2     |
| Colon      | Men   | -          | -     | -     | -     | 2     | -     | -   | 2     |
|            | Women | -          | -     | -     | 1     | -     | 1     | 4   | 6     |
| Others     | Men   | 1          | 1     | -     | 1     | 2     | 2     | 1   | 8     |
|            | Women | 1          | -     | 1     | 2     | 1     | 2     | 2   | 9     |
| Ovary      | Women | -          | -     | -     | 3     | -     | 1     | -   | 4     |

### Lung Cancer

This was again the most common single cause of death from malignancy. Despite fluctuations in the local figures the national figure has risen inexorably year by year. Between 1956 and 1968 the annual number of deaths from this cause rose from 18,185 to 28,826, which is a rise from 3.5% to almost 5% of the total number of deaths. The habit of cigarette smoking is responsible for the vast majority of these deaths as well as contributing in large measure to the increasing mortality from ischaemic heart disease.



Section B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Welfare Centres and Clinics

Bricket Wood - St. Luke's Church Hall.

Infant Welfare

2nd and 4th Tuesdays - 2-4 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends)

Vaccination & Immunisation

3rd Wednesdays - 9.30-11.30 a.m.

Colney Heath - The Pavilion.

Infant Welfare

1st and 3rd Tuesdays - 2.30-4 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends)

Harpenden - 40 Luton Road.  
(Harpenden 2040)

Ophthalmic

Mondays - 9.30-11.30 a.m. (By appointment)

Vaccination & Immunisation

2nd and 4th Wednesday in month - 9.30 a.  
(Dr. Attends) - 12 noon

Speech Therapy

Thursday - 9.30-12 noon; 2-4 p.m.  
(By Appointment)

Infant Welfare

Wednesdays - 1.45-4.30 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends)

Dental

Tuesdays )  
Wednesdays ) 9.30 - 12 noon  
Fridays ) 2-4 p.m.

Cytology Clinic

(By Appointment)  
Thursdays - 9.30-11.30 a.m.  
(By Appointment)

Harpenden - Batford J.M.I. School  
Pickford Hill.

Infant Welfare

2nd and 4th Thursdays - 1.45-4.30 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends)

Speech Therapy

Tuesdays - 2-4 p.m.

Harpenden - Southdown,  
Methodist Church Hall.

Infant Welfare

Fridays - 2-4.30 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends 2nd and 4th)

London Colney - Community Centre,  
Caledon Road.

Vaccination & Immunisation

Fridays - 9.30-12 noon  
(Dr. Attends)

London Colney - Community Centre (continued)

Infant Welfare

Thursdays - 1.45-4.30 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends 1st and 3rd)

Redbourn - Congregational Hall.

Infant Welfare

2nd and 4th Tuesdays - 2.30-4.30 p.m.

St. Albans - Village Hall, Park Street.

Infant Welfare

Mondays - 1.30-4 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends 2nd and 4th)  
1st Monday - 2.- 4 p.m.

Vaccination & Immunisation

St. Albans - Mandeville Health Centre,  
Mandeville Drive.

Telephone: 50471

Infant Welfare

1st & 3rd Thursdays - 2-4 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends)

Dental

Tuesdays ) 9.30-12 noon  
Wednesdays ) 2-4 p.m.  
(By Appointment)

Immunisation & Vaccination

4th Thursday - 2-4 p.m.

Speech Therapy

Fridays 2-4 p.m.

St. Albans - Margaret Wix Health Centre,  
High Oaks.

Telephone: 56994

Infant Welfare

Wednesdays - 1.30-4 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends 2nd and 4th)

Speech Therapy

Tuesdays - 2-4 p.m.

Dental

Mondays )  
Thursdays ) a.m. and p.m.  
(By Appointment)

St. Albans - Principal Health Centre,  
Civic Centre.

Telephone: 59211

Immunisation & Vaccination

Mondays - 9-12 noon  
(Dr. Attends 9.30 a.m.)  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday &  
Friday - 9.30-12.30 p.m.: 2-5 p.m.  
Saturdays - 9.30-12 noon (alternate)  
Monday - 9-12 noon : 2-4.30 p.m.  
Wednesday - 9-12 noon : 2-4.30 p.m.  
(By Appointment)  
Thursday - 9.30-12 noon : 2-4.30 p.m.  
Friday - 9-12 noon : 2-4.30 p.m.  
Monday and Tuesday - 9.30-12.30 p.m.  
(By Appointment)

Dental

Orthoptic

Ophthalmic

St. Albans - Principal Health Centre (continued)

Speech

Tuesday - 9.30-12 noon

(By Appointment)

Tuesday - 1.30-4.30 p.m.

Thursday - 1.30-4.30 p.m.

Ante-Natal

Wednesday - 2-4 p.m.

Infant Welfare

Tuesday & Friday - 1.30-4 p.m.

(Dr. attends Friday and 2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

Foods issued Tuesday and Friday)

Audiometrician

2nd and 4th Tuesdays - 2-4.30 p.m.

Fridays - 2-4.30 p.m.

(By Appointment)

Audiology

2nd & 4th Wednesdays - 9.30-12 noon :  
2-4 p.m.

(By Appointment)

St. Albans - Cunningham Hill Health Centre,

Cell Barnes Lane.

Telephone: 53025

Infant Welfare

Mondays - 2-4.30 p.m.

(Dr. Attends)

Immunisation & Vaccination

1st & 3rd Thursdays - 9.30-12 noon.

(By Appointment)

Speech

Fridays - 9.30-12 noon

(By Appointment)

St. Albans - Skyswood Health Centre,

Marshalswick Estate.

Telephone: 57041

Infant Welfare

Monday & Friday - 2-4.30 p.m.

(Dr. Attends)

Immunisation & Vaccination

1st & 3rd Tuesday - 2-4 p.m.

(By Appointment)

Speech

Thursdays - 2-4 p.m.

(By Appointment)

Ante-Natal

Thursdays - 2-4 p.m.

Dental

Mondays - 10-12 noon : 2-4 p.m.

Tuesdays - 2-4 p.m.

Wednesdays - 10-12 noon

Thursdays - 10-12 noon

(By Appointment)

St. Albans - Watford Road,

Congregational Church Hall. (Closed w.e.f. 18.4.69)

Infant Welfare

1st & 3rd Fridays - 2-4 p.m.

(Dr. Attends)



St. Albans City Hospital, Normandy Road Wing.  
Telephone: 52211

V.D. (Women)  
V.D. (men)  
Post-Natal  
Chest Clinic

Thursdays - 1.30-3 p.m.  
Tuesdays - 4-6 p.m.  
Wednesdays - 11 a.m.  
Mondays - 9 a.m. (By Appointment)  
Wednesdays - 9 a.m. (By Appointment)  
Thursday - 9 a.m. (By Appointment)

Sandridge - Parish Hall

Infant Weighing

2nd & 4th Wednesdays - 2.30-3.30 p.m.

Shenley - Village Hall

Infant Welfare

1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 2-4 p.m.  
(Dr. Attends)

Wheathampstead - Mead Hall, East Lane.

Infant Welfare

2nd & 4th Fridays - 2.30-4 p.m.  
(Dr. attends 3.00 p.m.)

Some of the County Council premises are also used by other organisations principally the Family Planning Association who hold sessions at St. Albans, Boreham Wood and Harpenden, and the Blood Transfusion Service who hold Donor Sessions at St. Albans Principal Health Centre and Skyswood Health Centre.

Hospitals

I am indebted to Mr. K.S. Robson, Group Secretary, Mid-Herts Group Hospital Management Committee, for the following information relating to Hill End, High Wick, and St. Albans City Hospitals.

HILL END HOSPITAL

|                          |       |             |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------|
| No. of Beds              | 769   | Psychiatric |
| No. of Discharges        | 1,149 |             |
| <u>Out-Patients</u>      |       |             |
| No. of New Patients      | 191   |             |
| No. of Attendances       | 1,260 |             |
| <u>Day Patients</u>      |       |             |
| No. of New Patients      | 81    |             |
| No. of Attendances       | 9,094 |             |
| X-Ray Department         | 3,367 |             |
| Physiotherapy Department | 3,857 |             |

HIGH WICK

Regional Unit for Psychotic and Maladjusted Children

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Beds       | 18 |
| Discharges | 5  |

ST. ALBANS CITY HOSPITAL

|                         | Beds<br>Allocated | In-Patient<br>Discharges | Out-Patients |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
|                         |                   |                          | New          | Total Attendances |
| General Medicine        | 68                | 1,323                    | 710          | 4,064             |
| Paediatrics             | 20                | 402                      | 313          | 2,092             |
| Infectious Diseases     | 9                 | 91                       |              |                   |
| Diseases of the Chest   | 6                 | 3                        | 939          | 4,538             |
| Dermatology             |                   |                          | 530          | 1,546             |
| Neurology               |                   |                          | 81           | 231               |
| Physical Medicine       |                   |                          | 370          | 3,110             |
| V.D.                    |                   |                          | 206          | 1,091             |
| Geriatrics              | 78                | 178                      |              |                   |
| General Surgery         | 66                | 1,867                    | 1,371        | 3,698             |
| E.N.T. (T & A) )        |                   | 176                      | ) 1,279 )    | 2,679             |
| )                       | 8                 |                          |              |                   |
| E.N.T. (Other) )        |                   | 147                      |              |                   |
| Trau.& Orth. Surgery )  | 44                | 1,338                    | 1,565        | 4,812             |
| Ophthalmology )         | 6                 | 267                      | 675          | 3,073             |
| Radiotherapy )          |                   |                          | 53           | 518               |
| Thoracic Surgery )      |                   |                          | 10           | 73                |
| Dentistry )             |                   | 15                       | 664          | 2,676             |
| Neurosurgery            |                   |                          | 11           | 22                |
| Gynaecology             | 21                | 829                      | 815          | 2,369             |
| Obstetrics ante-natal ) |                   |                          | 889          | 5,872             |
| " post-natal )          | 29                | 857                      | 512          | 512               |
| Special Care Babies     | 7                 | 50                       |              |                   |
| Mental Illness          |                   |                          | 246          | 1,040             |
| Allergy                 |                   |                          | 195          | 195               |
| Private Section 5       | 4                 | 95                       |              |                   |
| " " 4                   | 6                 |                          |              |                   |
| Totals                  | 372               | 7,638                    | 11,434       | 44,211            |
| Accident & Emergency    |                   |                          | 12,683       | 23,830            |

Maternity:                      Live births                      724  
    Stillbirths                      11

X-Ray Department:                      58,651 Units

Physiotherapy Department:                      49,633 Attendances



Section CPREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASESST. ALBANS RURAL DISTRICT

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Scarlet Fever           | 9   |
| Whooping Cough          | 22  |
| Measles                 | 138 |
| Food Poisoning          | 10  |
| Infective Hepatitis     | 6   |
| Dysentery               | 45  |
| Erysipelas              | 1   |
| Pneumonia               | 3   |
| Para-typhoid Fever      | 2   |
| Meningococcal Infection | 1   |

Food Poisoning

Ten cases of food poisoning were reported in the Rural District during 1968. 8 of the cases were sporadic, and there was one family outbreak in which two members of the family were involved. Salmonella infections were found to be the causative agent in 9 of the cases and in the remaining case the cause of the infection was not traced.

TUBERCULOSIS 1968

During 1968 the following new cases of tuberculosis were notified in the Rural District.

| Age Group         | Respiratory |   | Non-Respiratory |   | Total |    |
|-------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|---|-------|----|
|                   | M           | F | M               | F | M     | F  |
| Under 5 years     | -           | 1 | -               | - | -     | 1  |
| 5 - 14 years      | -           | 2 | -               | - | -     | 2  |
| 15 - 24 years     | 2           | 1 | -               | 1 | 2     | 2  |
| 25 - 44 years     | 5           | 3 | -               | 1 | 5     | 4  |
| 45 - 64 years     | 5           | - | -               | - | 5     | -  |
| 65 years and over | 2           | 1 | -               | - | 2     | 1  |
| Total             | 14          | 8 | -               | 2 | 14    | 10 |

During the year 27 cases were removed from the register, and there were 4 respiratory (3 male and 1 female) cases transferred into the Area.

The state of the tuberculosis register at the 31st December, 1968 was as follows:-

| <u>Respiratory</u> |                | <u>Non-Respiratory</u> |                | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| <u>Males</u>       | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u>           | <u>Females</u> |              |
| 186                | 124            | 15                     | 20             | 345          |

ST. ALBANS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR TO THE CHAIRMAN AND  
MEMBERS OF THE ST. ALBANS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the work carried out by the Council's Public Health Department during 1968.

For the first time in the past few years the staff position, particularly so far as the Health Inspectorate is concerned, was settled and up to establishment, enabling solid, if not spectacular, progress to be made.

Within the capacity of the Council to assist in rehousing, unfit properties were dealt with. At the same time, there has been a steady modernisation, with the aid of improvement grants, of some of the older, but still sound, houses.

Co-operation is, of course, the key-note to public health work, and I am pleased to report the continued co-operation received from the varied sections of the public into whose lives we have to intrude.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation of the sound work carried out by the staff, and to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council's Public Health, Lighting and Safety Committee for their keen interest and support throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

LESLIE LOWE

Chief Public Health Inspector

GENERAL SANITATION

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Public

The supplies of water distributed in the area by the statutory undertakers have been satisfactory in quantity and quality, and there is no evidence that the water is liable to plumbo-solvency.

(b) Private

There are no dwelling houses within the district served by stand pipes,

but 122 houses still rely on private bores or wells, of which there are now 77. One dwelling lacks a wholesome supply of water within a reasonable distance. These 123 dwelling houses are located as follows:-

|                 | <u>With Wells<br/>or Bores</u> | <u>No Supply</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Colney Heath    | 8                              | -                |
| Harpenden Rural | 6                              | -                |
| London Colney   | 2                              | -                |
| Redbourn        | 8                              | -                |
| St. Michael     | 2                              | -                |
| St. Stephen     | 22                             | -                |
| Sandridge       | 32                             | -                |
| Wheathampstead  | 42                             | 1                |
|                 | <hr/>                          | <hr/>            |
|                 | 122                            | 1                |
|                 | <hr/>                          | <hr/>            |

Three houses within the area are supplied by a private well situated in the area of a neighbouring Authority. A further five bores are in use to supply Institutions or other large establishments and their associated dwellings within the district.

It is departmental policy to take at least one sample of water for bacteriological examination from each private well or bore in each year. More frequent sampling is undertaken where there is doubt as to the quality of the water, or where more frequent sampling is requested by the occupiers.

In all, a total of 88 samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Luton, and the laboratory at Hill End Hospital, St. Albans, for such examination. The results of these analyses showed all well water in the district to be of high quality.

As a further measure of control, and particularly in houses where lead plumbing was noticed, pH readings of the water were undertaken at the time of sampling. Of 58 such readings only two were acid in reaction, and, whilst acidity alone is not a complete explanation of plumbo-solvency, the hardness of the private domestic supplies does suggest that here again, plumbo-solvency is not a problem in the district.

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to Mr. H. Wilkinson, Engineer and Surveyor to the Council, for the following note on arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal.

"Public sewers in the Rural District vary in diameter from 6" to 15" and with a total length of approximately 16 miles, serve all the principal centres of population which contain about 95% of the dwellings in the district.

The Rural District Council is a constituent authority member of the



West Hertfordshire Main Drainage Authority with whose trunk sewers most of the public sewers connect. The trunk sewers convey sewage to the Authority's treatment works at Maple Cross near Rickmansworth.

There are agreements with all the neighbouring authorities to provide for the intercommunication of public sewers vested in the several Councils and such arrangements are most economical, and, in remote areas, have enabled properties to have the benefits of main drainage when otherwise this facility could not have been provided.

The Rural District Council's only sewage disposal works is situated at Wheathampstead, and treats an average daily flow of approximately 180,000 gallons. A high standard of effluent is demanded by the Lea Conservancy Catchment Board, and to achieve the necessary standard the whole of the flow to the Works received double filtration and settlement. During the year, investigations were completed at the disposal works with a view to modernising and extending the treatment to ensure that the Catchment Board's standards are met in the future as the population of the area served increases. The Consultant's report is now being prepared.

#### SANITATION

##### (a) Cesspools

In addition to the public sewerage system, some 490 houses in the area have a water carriage system of sanitation incorporating the use of cesspools. These are emptied regularly by the Council, two specialised vehicles being provided for this purpose.

##### (b) Pail Closets

The number of dwellings within the district with pail closet sanitation remains at 12. The dwellings concerned are located as follows:

|                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Wheathampstead  | 5 |  |
| Sandridge       | 1 | (A house which is the subject of a suspended Demolition Order) |
| St. Stephen     | 2 |  |
| Redbourn        | 1 |  |
| Harpenden Rural | 2 |  |
| Colney Heath    | 1 |  |

None of the premises concerned is within reasonable distance of sewers, and hence formal action cannot be undertaken. In two cases, however, it was possible to persuade the owner concerned to have a septic tank installed with the assistance of a Discretionary Grant, and by the end of the year approval under the Building Regulations had been given to this proposal. It is hoped that the work will be completed shortly.

The new housing legislation now before Parliament proposes the extension

of Discretionary Grants to cover cesspool installation. This was a serious omission under previous Acts aimed at the improvement of houses, and if it becomes law every opportunity will be taken to encourage owners whose properties have these remaining pail closets to take full advantage of the scheme.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

#### SWIMMING BATHS

The Council has no swimming baths under its management, but there is one pool in the district open to the public on payment of an admission charge. This pool, together with two private pools, are extensively used by schools during the summer season under arrangements between the Education Authority and the managements concerned. These three pools, operated on the system of continuous circulation and purification, are closely supervised during the summer season. Two private clubs within the area also operate swimming pools, but on a fill and empty basis. Co-operation between the department and the clubs concerned is good, and the pools are regularly sampled by arrangement with the managements. One of the clubs is actively pursuing the idea of installing filtration plant.

In all, a total of 88 samples of swimming bath water were taken for bacteriological examination in addition to regular chlorine readings made at the pool side.

Conditions in general were quite satisfactory at the swimming pools, with evidence of a greater awareness on the part of pool operators of their obligations and a willingness to seek departmental advice on their problems in this complex matter of pool chemistry.

#### AIR POLLUTION

The department operated a station for measuring atmospheric pollution at St. Helens Junior School, Wheathampstead, until the middle of the year when the equipment was moved and set up in London Colney at a new site approved by the Ministry of Technology Air Pollution Station, Warren Spring, Stevenage. Readings continued to be supplied monthly to that Authority for computer calculation forming part of the national survey of air pollution.

Results obtained during the year 1968 support the earlier findings that at Wheathampstead the figure for smoke compares favourably with most small inland towns or villages, although the sulphur dioxide was higher than would be expected in such areas. On the basis of the five-year readings now available for Wheathampstead, no action under the Clean Air Act, 1956, is indicated. The figures in respect of London Colney to date are most interesting, and if present form of results continues it may well be that a different approach will be necessary in the case of London Colney.



## NUISANCES

A total of 201 complaints of alleged nuisance were received by the Department during 1968, and investigated. Little difficulty was experienced in clearing up matters to the satisfaction of complainants in most cases, though the now hardy annuals of noise, and smells, both agricultural and industrial, proved more difficult to resolve.

In the case of noise, a major source of complaint arose from a factory situated just outside the boundary of this local authority, where concrete components for civil engineering are cast. The management was most co-operative during the year, many sources of noise being suppressed, and factory schedules adjusted to minimise the impact of the remaining noise.

In the case of industrial smells, the main sources of these are two chemical works situated in different villages. In one of these again, the management has carried out extensive works of improvement, particularly to the scrubbing equipment, and, in general, the village enjoys a freedom from smells which has not been the case for many years. In the second case, a simpler solution was found to the main problem, and the structural work necessary in this case will be carried out during 1969.

The question of disposal of animal wastes from intensive farming continues to give rise to many complaints, particularly when disposal takes place in dry weather. However, farmers do co-operate to the best of their ability, and attempt to carry out disposal in the most favourable weather conditions.

## WASPS

The Council continued their policy of undertaking the destruction of wasps' nests free of charge. During the summer season of 1968, a total of 51 were destroyed. This service is one which is greatly appreciated by residents throughout the district.

## RODENT CONTROL

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, within their district, and since the coming into operation of this Act it has been the Council's policy to carry out free treatment at domestic premises. In the case of commercial premises and agricultural holdings charges are made on a scale regarded as sufficient to cover the cost involved, the department being prepared to quote for either single treatments or for a contract period of one year. On 31st December, 1968, thirty-seven contracts were running with an annual value of £402.5.0d. Of these, nineteen related to farms, and eighteen to industrial premises.

The early part of 1968 showed a large drop in the rodent population in

the area, due, no doubt, to the intensive measures taken throughout the County the year before. By the end of the year the situation was still well under control, although some increase in the rat population was once again observed.

Due to extreme pressure of work on the sole Rodent Operator, it did not prove possible for the annual Farm Survey to be carried out, though known potential sources of infestation were kept under observation, and action taken as required.

Statistics in respect of rodent control works are shown below.

|   | TYPE OF PROPERTY   |                |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
|   | Non-Agri-cultural. | Agricul-tural. |
| 1. Number of properties in district.  | 14101              | 377            |
| 2.(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.        | 546                | 24             |
| (b) Number infested by (i) Rats.  | 386                | 24             |
| (ii) Mice.  | 35                 | -              |
| 3.(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notifications. | 282                | 318            |
| (b) Number infested by (i) Rats.  | 25                 | 22             |
| (ii) Mice.  | -                  | -              |

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

There are 7 premises licensed under the above Act within the district. These vary in size from establishments catering for a mere half dozen small animals, to one which can accommodate about one hundred. Conditions at these Boarding Establishments are extremely good, the licencees being very concerned with the health and welfare of the animals in their temporary care.

#### CONTROL OF REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse collection and disposal is undertaken by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, but a considerable volume of refuse from the Greater London area, and also from neighbouring districts, is disposed of by tipping within the St. Albans Rural District area. Such tipping is under the joint control



of the Council and the County Council, and is being carried out in disused gravel pits. The tipping sites are regularly inspected and closely supervised. Changes in the nature and volume of refuse due to high paper content and in the means of transportation gave rise to a considerable number of complaints last year due to paper and other refuse falling into the country roads during transportation. After discussion with the transporting contractors, who were requested to ensure that all loads were properly and securely covered, a considerable improvement was noticed, and this has been maintained.

### HOUSING

In general, property within the district is good, approximately one-half being of post-war construction. Many older cottages in the area have been comprehensively reconditioned whilst retaining their traditional appearance, and these find a ready market when offered for sale. Apart from Council-owned dwellings, which amount to roughly one-quarter of the houses in the district, there is relatively little property available for renting, and hence few housing complaints are received by this department. The following summary gives details of formal action relative to property within the district.

1. Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of demolition or closing orders 17
2. Number of demolition or closing orders made:
  - (a) Demolition Orders 17
  - (b) Closing Orders, Whole Premises. 0
  - (c) Undertakings accepted that houses would be made fit. 7
  - (d) Undertakings carried out to the satisfaction of the Council. 3
3. Number of houses demolished:
  - (a) As a result of Demolition Orders. 2
  - (b) In Clearance Areas. 0
4. Number of Discretionary Improvement Grants approved by the Council. 7
5. Number of Standard Grants approved by the Council. 35

### SLUM CLEARANCE

The remaining houses which are not considered to be repairable at reasonable expense are widely scattered and can only be dealt with as individually unfit properties. In such cases, comprehensive schemes of improvement are accepted by the Council as a matter of policy. There are some 50 houses in respect of which a decision must ultimately be made. This will be made as opportunity arises, though care will be necessary to

ensure that official action does not impose undue hardship, particularly in the case of elderly owner/occupiers.

### IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

The total number of houses in the area which lack one or more of the standard amenities was 330 at the end of the year. Again, these are mostly single houses or small groups scattered over seven parishes, and this, together with the satisfactory rate at which voluntary improvements are proceeding, does not suggest a formal declaration of improvement areas within the district. Late in the year, the long-awaited new Housing Bill came before Parliament, and it is hoped that if it becomes law the expected more generous provisions will encourage the owners of the remaining unimproved houses to bring their properties up to the accepted standards.

### COUNCIL HOUSES

I give below statistics provided by Miss Sharpe, the Council's Housing Officer, showing the present position of Council houses in the various parishes.



NUMBER OF PROPERTIES FOR LETTING UNDER THE  
CONTROL OF THE COUNCIL AT 31st DECEMBER,  
1968

ANALYSIS SHOWING HOUSING  
PROGRESS FROM 1st JAN.,  
TO 31st DEC., 1968

| PARISH          | PRE-<br>WAR<br>HOUSES | POST<br>WAR<br>HOUSES | ACQUI-<br>RED<br>PROP-<br>ERTIES | TOTAL | NEW<br>HOUSES<br>COMP-<br>LETED<br>IN<br>1968 | NO. OF<br>PROPER-<br>TIES<br>VACATED<br>IN 1968<br>OTHER<br>THAN BY<br>TRANSFER | NO. OF<br>FAMI-<br>LIES<br>HOUSED<br>IN<br>1968 |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------|---|---|---|
| London Colney   | 11                    | 817                   | 5                                | 921   | -   | 19  | 20  |
| Redbourn        | 127                   | 284                   | 9                                | 420   | -   | 15  | 23  |
| St. Stephen     | 34                    | 196                   | 1                                | 231   | -   | 5   | 13  |
| Colney Heath    | 108                   | 187                   | 8                                | 303   | 23  | 8   | 32  |
| Sandridge       | 54                    | 210                   | -                                | 264   | 4   | 10  | 15  |
| Wheathampstead  | 90                    | 209                   | 6                                | 305   | -   | 11  | 16  |
| St. Michaels'   | 16                    | -                     | -                                | 16    | -   | -   | 1   |
| Harpenden U.D.  | -                     | 13                    | -                                | 13    | -   | -   | -   |
| Harpenden Rural | -                     | -                     | -                                | -     | -   | -   | 2   |
| City Area       | -                     | -                     | 3                                | 3     | -   | -   | -   |
| TOTALS          | 528                   | 1916                  | 32*                              | 2476  | 27  | 68  | 122 ‡   |

\* Does not include Bennick House and 100 Hatfield Road.

‡ Takes into account those dwellings vacant at 31.12.68.

CARAVAN SITES (CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT) ACT 1960

Fifty-nine caravans are licensed on private sites in the district under the above Act. No serious public health problems arise from these sites,



although occasionally action has to be taken against some of the caravans which are not really suitable for permanent occupation. In addition, the Council own two sites, one for sixty-nine caravans, and one for twenty-nine caravans.

St. Albans Rural District appears to be a favoured area for itinerants, and 1968 proved no exception. The damage and despoilation of the countryside by these people is a most unfortunate by-product of their presence. The Council has, however, approved in principle the establishment of a site for itinerants in the district, and it is hoped that its development will not be unduly delayed.

In the case of one aged gypsy lady who has lived intermittently in the area in a makeshift tent, the Council took the enlightened step of purchasing a caravan which, with the co-operation of the Hertfordshire County Council, is stationed on the Bushey Caravan Site, and let to her at an economic rent.

### FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

#### MEAT INSPECTION

The slaughter of cattle, calves, sheep, and pigs for human consumption continued to be carried out at three licensed slaughterhouses in the area, namely, Sandridge, Wheathampstead, and London Colney. The latter slaughterhouse is also licensed for the slaughter of horses for human consumption. Again, all carcasses and their associated offals were inspected during the year.

For the first time in several years, no *Cysticercus Bovis* was detected. Of interest was the case of a cow with tongue lesions macroscopically, indistinguishable from Foot and Mouth Disease, which sparked off full Foot and Mouth Disease Control measures within a five mile area. Fortunately, laboratory tests proved negative, although the carcass was condemned for an associated condition. I give below details of the number of animals slaughtered and the condemnations necessary, during the year.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART FOR THE YEAR  
1968

|  | Cattle<br>exclud-<br>ing Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep | Pigs | Horses |
|--|-------------------------------|------|--------|-------|------|--------|
| Number killed  | 1366                          | 343  | 471    | 3106  | 4267 | 57     |
| Number inspected                                       | 1366                          | 343  | 471    | 3106  | 4267 | 57     |
| <u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> |                               |      |        |       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned                              | 5                             | 3    | 2      | 1     | 4    | -      |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned    | 214                           | 110  | 16     | 155   | 225  | 23     |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u>                               |                               |      |        |       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned                              | -                             | -    | -      | -     | 3    | -      |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned    | -                             | 1    | -      | -     | 6    | -      |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u>                                   |                               |      |        |       |      |        |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned    | -                             | -    | -      | -     | -    | -      |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration      | -                             | -    | -      | -     | -    | -      |
| Generalised and totally condemned                      | -                             | -    | -      | -     | -    | -      |

Again I am indebted to Mr. R. E. C. Goddard, Chief Public Health Inspector of the City of St. Albans, and his staff, who continue to help with the meat inspection of Sandridge Slaughterhouse. Their assistance and co-operation is much valued by this department.

The Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966

The Council takes advantage of these Regulations to restrict slaughtering



times within the district. In general, the system worked well, though the hours during which slaughtering is permitted, extending as they do beyond normal office hours, and also including Saturday mornings, do necessitate some overtime working by the inspection staff.

### Imported Food Regulations 1968

These Regulations permit foodstuffs to be imported direct to inland areas without prior inspection at the Dockside. There are suitable safeguards as to notification of movement of the foodstuffs, and the receiving authority is responsible for inspection before distribution. Several consignments of meat were received into this district under this new procedure during 1968. As containerisation develops, no doubt this work will increase, but without radical changes and increase in facilities for handling and storage of foodstuffs in the area this work is not likely to be a serious problem.

### FOOD HYGIENE

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

##### Registrations under Section 16

Seventy-two premises are registered in connection with the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and preserved foods, etc. Of these, fifty-four are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream.

##### (a) Milk Supplies

(i) Ten distributors are registered under Regulation 8 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

##### (ii) Brucella Abortus

Two Pasteurisation Orders are still in operation in the district on two farms where Brucella Abortus was found, although one of the farms is now thought to be clear. Ten bulked samples of milk were taken at the farms in this connection.

##### (iii) General

Additional samples were taken from a milk vending machine, and, coincidentally, for the second year running, one sample at a farm following the death of a calf from Salmonellosis. This sample was negative.

##### (b) The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

(c) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

A total of 231 premises in the district are subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960. The table which follows shows the grouping according to the categories of trade carried on in these premises, the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16, and the number of premises affected by Regulation 19.



DETAILS OF FOOD PREMISES AS AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1968, GROUPED IN TRADE CATEGORIES, TOGETHER WITH OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

| Type of Food Premises                            | Total No. of Premises | Number of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 | Number of Premises to which regulation 19 applies | Number of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19 |
|--|-----------------------|--|---|--|
| 1. Grocery, Provisions & General                 | 41                    | 41   | 41  | 41   |
| 2. Grocery, Provisions, Butcher                  | 1                     | 1  | 1   | 1  |
| 3. Butcher                                       | 13                    | 13   | 13  | 13   |
| 4. Baker's shop                                  | 7                     | 7  | 7   | 7  |
| 5. Bakeries                                      | 4                     | 4  | 4   | 4  |
| 6. Sweets, Confectionery and/or ice cream        | 13                    | 13   | 13  | 13   |
| 7. Greengrocery                                  | 11                    | 11   | 11  | 10   |
| 8. Fish  | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2  |
| 9. Fish & Greengrocery                           | 3                     | 3  | 3   | 3  |
| 10. Food Factories/<br>Wholesale Food Depots     | 4                     | 4  | 4   | 4  |
| 11. Schools & Institutions                       | 32                    | 32   | 32  | 32   |
| 12. Hospitals & Nursing Homes.                   | 6                     | 6  | 6   | 6  |
| 13. Factory Canteens                             | 18                    | 18   | 18  | 18   |
| 14. Cafes including Clubs & Licensed Restaurants | 15                    | 14   | 15  | 15   |
| 15. Licensed Hotel/<br>Restaurant                | 6                     | 6  | 6   | 6  |
| 16. Off Licences                                 | 6                     | 6  | 4   | 4  |
| 17. Public Houses                                | 49                    | 49   | 50  | 50   |
| TOTALS   | 231                   | 230  | 230   | 230  |

In general, a good standard is to be found in food premises within the district, with most food workers anxious to carry out the spirit of the Regulations.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

During the spring, a ten-lecture course in food hygiene in preparation for the appropriate certificate of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene was held at the St. Albans College of Further Education, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector contributing some of the lectures. Two persons working in food premises in the Rural District attended the course, and were successful at the subsequent examination.

#### POULTRY INSPECTION

Two premises within the district carry on business of poultry processing, though only to the rough-plucked stage. Six visits were made to these premises during the year, but no carcase inspection was carried out.

At the first establishment, a regular trade has been built up over the past few years in turkey slaughter, some 300 such birds being slaughtered and rough-plucked each week. During December, this figure rises to between 2,000 and 3,000 per week, and this figure is again attained in the week preceding major holidays.

The second station is confined to chickens, some 150,000 birds being reared from day-old chicks during the course of the year. Two-thirds of these birds are sent direct to the London markets in a live state, the remaining one-third surplus being slaughtered and rough-plucked at the poultry farm and sold to the local trade. About 1,000 birds were said to be rejected by the firm as being unfit for human consumption.

#### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES REGULATIONS 1963

The number of infringements under the Regulations noted during the year was 19, being mostly of a minor nature such as failure to maintain First Aid Box correctly, or the absence of Abstract of the Regulations. No great difficulties were experienced in administering the Regulations, or, where defects were found, in having them remedied, the Regulations having by now reached a stage of acceptability by the established firms, though in the case of newcomers there is gross ignorance of the Regulations, and extreme difficulty in ensuring initial registration.

Two notifications of accidents were received during the year,. Both cases were thoroughly investigated, and called for no further action on the part of the Council.



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

(I) PARTICULARS of Registrations and Inspections

| Class of Premises                                    | Number of premises registered during the year | Total number of registered premises at end of year | Number of premises receiving a general inspection during the year |
|--|---|--|---|
| Offices  | -   | 30   | 7   |
| Retail shops   | -   | 106  | 58  |
| Wholesale Shops, Warehouses                          | 1   | 1  | 1   |
| Catering Establishments open to the public; Canteens | -   | 11   | 9   |
| Fuel Storage Depots                                  | -   | -  | -   |
| TOTALS   | 1   | 148  | 75  |

(II) ANALYSIS of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

| Class of Workplace                                   | Number of persons employed |         |        |
|--|----------------------------|---------|--------|
|  | Males                      | Females | Totals |
| Offices  | 139                        | 111     | 250    |
| Retail Shops   | 102                        | 238     | 340    |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses                    | 1                          | 2       | 3      |
| Catering Establishments open to the public; Canteens | 35                         | 30      | 65     |
| Fuel storage depots                                  | -                          | -       | -      |
| TOTALS   | 277                        | 381     | 658    |



## FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspections and other details as required under the Factories Act of 1961, are shown in Appendix I.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1968  
FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ST. ALBANS IN THE COUNTY OF HERTFORD

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. (Including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| Premises   | Number<br>of<br>Register | Number of        |                    |                         |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|  |                          | Inspec-<br>tions | Written<br>Notices | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities                    | 3                        | -                | -                  | -                       |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority                        | 85                       | 46               | 4                  | -                       |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | 8                        | 3                | -                  | -                       |
| TOTALS   | 96                       | 49               | 4                  | -                       |

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

| Particulars<br><br>(1)   | Number of cases in which defects were found |                 |   |   | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted<br>(6) |
|--|---|-----------------|---|---|--|
|  | Found<br>(2)                                | Remedied<br>(3) | Referred<br>To H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(4) | Referred<br>To H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(5) |  |
| Want of cleanliness(s.1)   | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| Overcrowding (S.2)   | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| Unreasonable temperature<br>(S.3)  | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| Inadequate ventilation<br>(S.4)  | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| Ineffective drainage of<br>floors (S.6)  | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| Sanitary Conveniences(S 7)   |   |                 |   |   |  |
| (a) Insufficient   | 1   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective  | 3   | 3               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| (c) Not separate for sexes   | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| Other offences against the<br>Act (not including<br>offences relating to Out-<br>work) | -   | -               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |
| TOTALS   | 4   | 3               | -                                       | -                                       | -  |





